

Message Text

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11/47

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 /032 W

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P 131852Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1966

AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

USMISSION BERLIN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (PARAGRAPH TWO LINE OMITTED)

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EAIR, UK, FR, WB

SUBJ: CIVAIR - PANAM'S BERLIN-LONDON ITC PROGRAM

REF: LONDON 783J

1. UK DEPARTMENT OF TRADE (DOT) VERBALLY INFORMED PANAM ON JUNE 11 THAT IT WOULD NOT APPROVE THE CARRIER'S BERLIN-LONDON ITC PROGRAM FOR FLIGHTS OPERATING AFTER JUNE 19. PANAM WAS TOLD THAT REASONS FOR THIS DECISION WOULD BE CONVEYED BY LETTER IN NEXT DAY OR TWO. IN RESPONSE TO PANAM REQUEST, WE MADE SERIES OF CALLS ON JUNE 13 TO DOT OFFICIALS (INCLUDING CALL BY DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY WALDMANN TO HUBBACK) AND TO JAMES, HEAD OF WESTERN EUROPEAN DEPARTMENT, FCO. BY END OF DAY, PANAM RECEIVED CALL FROM DOT STATING THAT "DUE TO REPRESENTATIONS" AND IN VIEW OF SHORT NOTICE ORIGINALLY GIVEN CARRIER, DOT WOULD APPROVE PANAM'S PROGRAM THROUGH JUNE 30 AND THAT DECISION AS TO FLIGHTS AFTER THAT DATE WOULD BE REVIEWED. DOT INTIMATED THAT PROGRAM AFTER JUNE 30 MIGHT BE APPROVED PROVIDED LEVEL OF PROGRAM DID NOT EXCEED LEVEL OPERATED IN RECENT PAST (ABOUT TWO FLIGHTS PER WEEK AS COMPARED WITH ABOUT THREE FLIGHTS PER WEEK PLANNED).

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2. OUR CALLS TO UK OFFICIALS AND BRITISH REACTION TO THEM WOULD INDICATE THAT ORIGINAL DECISION TO CUT-OFF PANAM'S ITC PROGRAM AFTER JUNE 19 MAY NOT HAVE BEEN FULLY COORDINATED WITH UKG. ALTHOUGH JUNE 30 DEADLINE GIVES US BIT MORE BREATHING SPACE TO TRY TO RESOLVE ISSUE, WE ARE NEVERTHELESS FACED WITH WHAT COULD BECOME SERIOUS PROBLEM IF BRITISH ADOPT RESTRICTIVE POLICY TOWARD BERLIN-LONDON CHARTERS BY U.S. CARRIERS. ONE OF THE REASONS FOR BRITISH CONCERN, OF COURSE, IS SUDDEN EXPANSION OF PANAM'S BERLIN CHARTER PROGRAM WHICH, WE ARE TOLD, HAS GROWN FROM AN OCCASIONAL FLIGHT LAST YEAR TO A PROGRAM OF ABOUT 57
)8 975 OF BERLIN INTERRELATES WITH WHOLE RANGE OF ISSUES UNDER DISCUSSION BY CAAS IN BONN AND SHOULD NOT BE DECIDED IN ISOLATION FROM THOSE ISSUES. WE WOULD SUGGEST, THEREFORE, THAT PROBLEM BE TAKEN UP ON URGENT BASIS IN BONN. WE ARE PREPARED, OF COURSE, TO ASSIST IN ANY WAY WE CAN.

3. STATE 138367 JUST RECEIVED. FURTHER COMMENTS WILL FOLLOW BY SEPTTEL.

RICHARDSON

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